IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-13 (cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method of recording, substantially contiguously, an earlier record information signal and, subsequently, a later record information signal on a record carrier, each record information signal representing at least one information unit, said record carrier having a recording track ~~which comprises~~comprising pre-formed track position information indicative of predefined locations for consecutively recording information units, said method comprising the steps:

—_____generating, from the earlier record information signal, an earlier modulated signal having at least one error correction code block, each error correction code block corresponding to one information unit and comprising successive frames, each frame including a synchronizing signal;

—_____scanning said recording track and recording the earlier modulated signal, while controlling such recording so as to maintain a substantially fixed relationship between the track position information and the synchronizing signals of the earlier modulated signal;

——generating, from the later record information signal, a later modulated signal having at least one error correction code block, each error correction code block corresponding to one information unit and comprising successive frames, each frame including a synchronizing signal;

——adding a preceding information signal to the later modulated signal, said preceding information signal containing no synchronizing signal so as to obtain a first predetermined distance between the beginning of the preceding information signal and a first synchronizing signal of a first error correction code block of the later modulated signal; and

——scanning said recording track and recording the later modulated signal, while controlling such recording so as to maintain a substantially fixed relationship between the track position information and the synchronizing signals of the later modulated signal, ~~and~~

——wherein the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal is recorded at a nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~14, wherein the recording of the earlier modulated signal is stopped before the nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of

the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal so as to obtain a second predefined distance between the end of the earlier modulated signal and the nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal.

16. (Currently Amended) A device for recording, substantially contiguously, an earlier record information signal and, subsequently, a later record information signal on a record carrier, each information signal representing at least one information unit, said record carrier having a recording track ~~which comprises~~comprising pre-formed track position information indicative of predefined locations for consecutively recording information units, the device comprising:

modulation means for generating, from the earlier record information signal and from the later record information signal, correspondingly an earlier modulated signal and a later modulated signal, respectively, each modulated signal having at least one error correction code block, each error correction code block corresponding to one information unit and comprising successive frames, each frame including a synchronizing signal~~,~~; and

recording means for scanning said recording track and recording said modulated signals, ~~and for~~said recording means maintaining, during said recording, a substantially fixed

relationship between the track position information and the synchronizing signals of said modulated signals,

wherein the modulation means ~~are arranged for adding~~adds a preceding information signal to the later modulated signal, said preceding information signal containing no synchronizing signal so as to obtain a first predetermined distance between the beginning of the preceding information signal and a first synchronizing signal of a first error correction code block of the later modulated signal,

and wherein the recording means ~~are arranged for recording~~records the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal at a nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~3~~16, wherein the recording means ~~are arranged for stopping~~stops the recording of the earlier modulated signal before the nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal so as to obtain a second predefined distance between the end of the earlier modulated signal and the nominal position of the first synchronizing signal of the first error correction code block of the later modulated signal.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~3~~16, wherein said first or second predefined distance is smaller than a distance over which errors are correctable on the basis of error codes comprised in an error correction code block.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~5~~18, wherein the modulation means ~~are arranged for including~~includes at least two layers of error codes, and said first or second predefined distance is smaller than a distance over which errors are correctable on the basis of the error codes of the first layer.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~5~~18, wherein each modulated signal comprises channel words representing corresponding information signal and the error codes, and said first or second predefined distance substantially corresponds to half the length of a channel word.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~4~~17, wherein the second predefined distance is smaller than the first predefined distance.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~3~~16, wherein the modulation means ~~are arranged for~~ variably ~~selecting~~

selects the first predefined distance between a minimum and a maximum value.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~3~~16, wherein the preceding information signal comprises variable random data.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as claimed in claim ~~3~~16, wherein the device further comprises means for processing or compressing digital or analog input signals, such as audio and/or video, to units of information.